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## Taber Says His Philosophy Was Spotting Real Needs

"My real accomplishments have been trying to find out and set aside the things which were not needed and providing money for only those things which are needed," U.S. Rep. John Taber of Auburn commented after announcing his retirement at the end of 40 years in the Congress.

Mr. Taber yesterday issued a statement that he would not be a candidate for re-election because of the pressures of his position. Mr. Taber, 81 years old, is the ranking Republican on the House Appropriation Committee.

Today in Washington the United Press International reported "Law-makers agreed today that the House won't be the same without the gruff, gravel-voiced but friendly man who is known affectionately by his foes as 'Meat Ax John'."

### Discusses Career

Rep. Taber yesterday sat in a straight-back chair at his law offices, 123 Genesee St., and discussed his career as public servant.

"It is through co-operation with other similar minded people that we have saved \$50 billion but I have always tried to be fair in providing for the real needs of the community."

Asked about specific remembrances, Mr. Taber said:

"I member especially one such instance. Back in 1933 President (Franklin D.) Roosevelt put through what was known as the Economy Act. Under it compensation for veterans in war was reduced.

"I was asked by veterans organizations to do something when the appropriation bill was brought up to the floor of the House. I wrote a completely new formula

for taking care of disabled veterans while the bill was up for consideration on the floor."

### Bill Endures

"I was then allowed to talk for more than an hour and at the conclusion the amendments I had offered were adopted and put through Congress."

"That law stayed for about 20 years the way I had proposed with slight modifications."

Asked about the present trends of government, Mr. Taber said "I am disturbed at the progress towards a welfare state."

"I do not believe that the country can do as much for the people in a welfare state as can be had under free enterprise and with the states meeting directly with their own appropriations the need for which they feel should be provided."

"This does not mean the federal government can neglect its responsibility in caring for the national defense."

Concerning his greatest honor during his life as a public official, Congressman Taber said "I feel others are more qualified to judge than I."

### Big Night

One of the congressman's greatest nights must have been May 17, 1960, when 1,000 Republicans and friends jammed the Auburn Inn ballroom for a testimonial dinner honoring Mr. Taber.

At the dinner then Vice President Richard M. Nixon said Mr. Taber

had performed "a great service to his district, state and county," particularly from the economic standpoint.

"The essence of Rep. Taber's attitude over the years" is a recognition that "he is not spending his money but yours," Mr. Nixon said.

At the dinner, Mr. Taber received several gifts including a painting from then President Dwight D. Eisenhower who wrote, "I have come to know your unswerving dedication to the public good and your always insistent demand for responsibility and pro-

portion and thrift in all our government does."

Other messages, praising Mr. Taber, came that night from Gov. Rockefeller, Rep. Clarence Cannon (D-Mo), former Governor Thomas E. Dewey, then director of the Central Intelligence Agency Allen Dulles, Senate Minority Leader Everett M. Dirksen (R-Ill), House Minority Leader Charles A. Halleck (R-Ind), Senators Jacob Javits and Kenneth B. Keating, both Republicans from New York State.

But perhaps Rep. Taber's greatest honor has been his constituents' support in electing him 20 times.